

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SEOUL 07187 150949Z

14

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 103965

R 150856Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2796

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

S E C R E T SEOUL 7187

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MNUC PARM KS FR CA

SUBJECT: ROK NUCLEAR/PROCESSING PLANS

REF: A. SEOUL 6989

B. SEOUL 6900

C. STATE 195214

SUMMARY: PRESIDENT KOREAN ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE YOON YOUNG-KU, AT HIS INITIATIVE, REVIEWED WITH AMBASSADOR SEPTEMBER 11 ROKG POSITION ON FRENCH NUCLEAR PROCESSING PLANT. YOON ELABORATED UPON RATIONALE IN REFS A AND B, ACKNOWLEDGING FAILURE OF COMMUNICATIONS WITH US AND PROPOSING POSSIBILITY OF CLOSER COOPERATION WITH US IN THE FUTURE. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING EXTENDED SESSION SEPTEMBER 11, YOON REVIEWED HISTORY OF ROKG CONSIDERATION OF NUCLEAR REPROCESSING AND RATIONALE FOR PURCHASE OF FRENCH REPROCESSING PLANT. HE PROVIDED DETAILS OF EFFORTS SINCE 1972 TO ELICIT US GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE INTEREST IN ROKG PROPOSALS WITHOUT SUCCESS. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ROKG SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE ASSIDUOUS IN PURSUING USG VIEWS AT HIGHER LEVELS, BUT POINTED OUT THAT EVEN EFFORTS TO ELICIT

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 SEOUL 07187 150949Z

EMBASSY INTEREST THWARTED BY INADEQUATE TECHNICAL STAFF

WITHIN EMBASSY. YOON ALSO QUITE FRANKLY RECOGNIZED THAT US SUSPICIONS RE ROKG INTENTIONS ENGENDERED BY STATEMENTS AND SOME ACTIVITIES IN ADD (AGENCY FOR DEFENSE DEVELOPMENT.

2. AT PRESENT TIME YOON SAID THERE ARE TWO VYING SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT WITHIN ROKG WITH RESPECT TO FUTURE NUCLEAR ENERGY PROGRAM. HE, MINISTER CHOI AND OTHERS TRAINED IN US ARE ARGUING FOR CLOSER COOPERATION WITH USG. OPPOSING VIEW IS TO RELY PRIMARILY ON THIRD COUNTRY SUPPORT AND THIS VIEWPOINT HAD BROAD INFLUENCE ON REPORCESSING DECISION WHEN EFFORTS APPROACH US WERE NOT RESPONDED TO. BOTH GROUPS SHARE CONSIDERABLE BITTERNESS, ACCORDING TO YOON, REGARDING PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT ACCORDED JAPAN IN REPORCESSING AREA. THEY ARE FULLY KNOWLEDGEABLE REGARDING JAPANESE REPORCESSING ACTIVITIES AND BITTER THAT THESE ACTIVITIES HAVE NOT ENGENDERED ANY COMPARABLE US APPROACH REGARDING US-SUPPORT FOR NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS.

3. YOON URGED EFFORTS TO REACH COMPROMISE ON PURCHASE OF FRENCH REPROCESSING FACILITY ALONG LINES ALREADY OUT-LINED REFS A AND B. HE PROPOSED MUCH CLOSER COOPERATION IN FUTURE, INCLUDING REVIEW WITH US EXPERTS ON SAFE-GUARDING PROCEDURES FOR REPORCESSING AND COOPERATION ON ESTABLISHMENT OF REGIONAL FUEL REPORCESSING CENTERS.

4. YOON'S VIEWS ARE SUMMARIZED IN LETTER SENT AMBASSADOR SUBSEQUENTLY ON SEPTEMBER 11 AND BEING SENT SEPTTEL.

5. AMBASSADOR REVIEWED WITH YOON BASIS FOR US POSITION AS SET FORTH REF C.
SNEIDER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR ENERGY, NUCLEAR RESEARCH, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SEOUL07187
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750318-0996
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750949/aaaabrmn.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 SEOUL 6989
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 APR 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <25 SEP 2003 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROK NUCLEAR/PROCESSING PLANS
TAGS: MNUC, PARM, KS, FR, CA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006